

SUBJECT

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 15-470

Pertaining to settlement of a personal injury claim by Senait Tefai Ghebray against the Board of Water Commissioners.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Staff and the Saint Paul City Attorney's Office is recommending the amount of \$20,000 be paid to the plaintiff, Senait Tefai Ghebray, as final settlement of a claim for personal injury resulting from a February 1, 2013 motor vehicle accident involving a SPRWS pick-up truck.

This vehicle accident resulted in the Board paying settlements for two property damage claims; one for \$8,233.26 in 2013 for the vehicle operated by this claimant, and one for \$8,517.72 in 2014 for another vehicle involved in the accident.

See attached Summary and resolution.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval is recommended.

Summary of February 1, 2013 Vehicle Accident and Claim

On February 1, 2013, a Saint Paul Regional Water Services pick-up truck No. 576 was involved in an accident on Hwy 36 approaching English Street in Maplewood. SPRWS vehicle was driving eastbound in the right lane. The claimant's vehicle was also in the right lane and had come to a complete stop behind a pick-up truck as the traffic light semaphore was red. SPRWS vehicle did not come to a stop in time and rear ended the claimant's vehicle. After initial impact, the claimant's vehicle was pushed forward and struck the pick-up truck it had initially stopped behind.

The vehicle operated by the claimant was a 2001 Toyota Camry. The vehicle was impacted at both the front and the rear, resulting in a total loss. A property damage claim associated with that vehicle was brought to the Board and settled at its meeting of November 12, 2013. Sandra Bodensteiner of the Office of Risk Management recommended the amount of \$8,233.26 be paid to State Farm Insurance as final settlement of all property damage claims related to this incident.

The claimant brought suit against the Board for personal injury arising from the incident. The matter was referred by staff to the City Attorney's Office, which is recommending the amount of \$20,000 be paid to Senait Tefai Ghebray as final settlement of all personal injury claims related to this incident.

SPRWS Accident Review Board determined that this accident was preventable. The SPRWS employee driving the pick-up truck received disciplinary action in the form of a written reprimand.